"Yes" and "No."

The inconsistency, the fickleness, the shiftiness, if you will excuse a strong simple word, that is most natural and becoming in a child, because it is a sign of immaturity, is out of place in those who are no longer children. Children are fickle and inconstant. A child's temper is like an April day, lightly turning from tears to laughter, and from laughter to tears. A child's moods are ever on the change. Give it first this toy, and then that, and presently it is in no mood for any toy. A child is easily led, and easily led astray. Now the apostle Paul in one place writes to men who are come, as he says, into a "full-grown manhood," should no longer act as children. Inconstancy must cease, and in its place we have a right to demand a manly steadfastness of will,

Steadfastness of will means much. It enables us to come out in all the dignity of our manhood on the side of right. Strength of will, means force. Force is of two kinds—the force of inertia, and the force that we call energy. From us who should have grown, developed and progressed from Christian babyhood, is expected the force of inertia that cannot be moved by that which is evil, and the force of energy which turns itself to that which is good. Inertia! energy! The power to say "No" with decision, that is manly inertia; the power to say "yes" with concentration, that is manly energy. This power to say "yes" and "no" at the right time is what we mean when we say strength of will.

We admire the man who had advanced in religious growth, so that he does not require to be fed with baby sop. Those people that have no mind of their own, and are led to change their ideas with every influence, and cannot say "yes" and "no," are still in their babyhood. "Get wisdom," says the wise man, "but with all thy getting get understanding." What is understanding? Understanding is what the Greeks called *nous*, what the French call *savoir faire*, what the English call "tact," and "common sense." But it is more. It is the power to say "Yes" and "No" in the right places. It is manly steadfastness of will, directed by moral qualities. It is energy, promptness, decision, perseverance, alongside with an invincible attachment to truth, an unbroken honesty, a conscience void of offence. Joseph is a grand sample of this steadfastness of will, When he saw a wrong thing he knew how to say a sturdy "No." We need the power that says "Yes" for the right, and the power that says "No" to the wrong, and then to stand right up to it. A congregation of such people that have grown out of baby habits will bring prosperity, respect and honor to the cause we love.

M.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Since the death of Jennie Lind, the "Swedish nightingale," whose music overjoyed the hearts of thousands, her name has been honored by every newspaper of note in this country, as well as in Europe, where she died. It was not her angelic voice alone, that has called out these eulogies upon her character, but with that voice was associated one of the most loveing and benevolent hearts that the world ever saw. It was her charity and goodness that has made her name live in the hearts of thousands, and which wafts it onward with the generations and the farther it goes the dearer the memory of it. "The greatest of these is charity" says Saint Paul when he names the three great qualities of God's religion. Charity is the stamp that has impressed the name of Jennie Lind upon the tender memories of the people.

In Bro. Switzer's oration, "The Fisheries Question," "navy" should take the place of money, in the paragraph relating to war between this country and England. Also in the next to the last paragraph "some govern" should read, "Rome governed."

Rev. C. H. Spurgeon in a recent sermon severely criticised a prominent doctrine of the Roman church. He said: "I stood some time ago in the church of St. John Lateran at Rome, and I saw a notice there that prayers would be said on a certain day for the repose of His Eminence Cardinal Wiseman. Now, I do not know anything about where he may be—I am not learned in such matters—but it is clear from that announcement that he who was prince of the church, eminently better than the common run of us, nevertheless has gone somewhere or other where he is not easy. And I find continually put upon grave stones where persons of that faith die that we are requested to pray for the repose of their souls. Then they have not found it that is clear. But as for our faith, the glorious gospel of the blessed God, we find a present repose and an eternal repose in the salvation of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Our great business as Christians is not so much to try to get to heaven, but to bring heaven down to earth. It is God's business rather than ours, to see that we get to heaven and we may leave it to him. But it is within our power and realm of possibility to bring heaven into our hearts and our homes.

A very prominent minister said the other day that his "politics were applied religion." It is true any politics that are not "applied religion" are horrible. The great defect today is not in the personal faith of our church members, but in that our Christianity is not applied practically in our daily life. Business and pleasure and politics should all be Christianized.

Lately in rummaging some old books we found a prayer uttered by George III, of England, on the day of this coronation, which for brevity and good sense has rarely been equalled. It reads thus: "Keep me, O Lord, from silly and unguarded friends, and from secret and designing enemies, and give me those things which are best for me through Jesus Christ our Lord." This prayer expresses the needs of all of us. Some of us can learn something even from a king of England. It would take some of us a long time and a good many words to say that much.

A member of one of Bro. Mason's congregations adds the following as a postscript in a recent letter: "Our old saloon keeper is very poorly with the dropsy. Please pray for him. I went to see him today, and told him to look to the Lord. The poor fellow filled up and said he thought a good deal about such things now, it is all he can do." This kind of a sentiment has the right ring to it, and is an example of a very practical Christianity.

Elder J. B. Lair, of the German Baptist church, a prominent minister and evangelist residing at Olathe, Kansas, has severed his connection with that church. German Baptist church polity, administered according to the policy of adjoining elders, was the cause for his withdrawal; and his withdrawal was the cause for the adjoining elders to act in his case and pronounced him expelled.

The Patrons of Husbandry of Iowa and Minnesota deserve credit for one good deed. They raised $25,000 to test the drive-well patent and carried it into the Supreme Court, and in our Washington Correspondence this week it will be seen that the farmers of the Nation are saved $30,000,000 of unjust debt.

The National Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, held at Nashville, Tenn., recently, was attended by 341 delegates and officers, representing thirty-three states and territories and the district of Columbia. Miss Frances E. Willard was re-elected president, as were other members of the Board. Among the important new measures adopted was the creation of a missionary board to further the gospel work in all sections. This union of women is doing one of the grandest work for temperance, morals and religion of modern times.

A meeting was held in New York City last week for the purpose of inaugurating a burial reform movement. There is indeed some needed reformation in the manner of performing that solemn duty. There is a great amount of foolish display, and customs that should be abandoned.

NOT ALONE.—The *Religious Telescope* says:—"It is marvelous to see how little persons can do for the cause of God when they try how little they can do. At the Methodist missionary committee meeting Secretary McCabe said that there was a man in New Jersey, the owner of three saw-mills and worth $40,000, who subscribed for all the benevolences of the church the sum of ten cents." That man is not alone in his glory. There are more like him.

The Past, Present and Future.

To our dear Brethren and Sisters—Greeting: Considering the short time of our existence as a church and the rapid progress she has made amidst all opposition and prejudice to overcome, the many organizations of churches, the numerous meeting houses that have already and are yet being built, the numerous accessions and the favorable feeling of the people generally, for our gospel alone principles, and the frequent inquiries made after our church and our prospects for the future, we have no reason for discouragement, but much to encourage us in our work. The good Lord, amidst trials, has favored us and the lowering clouds are clearing away and the bright sunlight of prosperity is shining upon us. Let us not become vain and proud on account of our success, but let us be humble, looking to God to guide and direct us in doing his will in building up the walls of Zion and extending her borders.

The spirit and work of the late convention met the general approval. Amid the many perplexing questions that had to be disposed of, it could not be expected that perfection could be reached.

The College question was prominent and all seemed eager to devise some plan to dispose of the indebtedness. The dollar plan was suggested and adopted. But while each can give a dollar this is no good reason why some of our wealthy brethren should not give their tens or hundreds. We have some who could give a thousand and would not feel it as much as the one dollar of some poor brother or sister. Come brethren do some good with your money while you live, and do not wait until you are dead and gone and leave a large inheritance for friends to quarrel over. O how happy we would be if some good friends would come up and free the College. It has been intimated that the money paid in, has been applied to other purposes. This is not the case but the contrary. The Trustees, to maintain the credit of the College have largely drawn upon their own private resources, and are bearing the anxieties and giving their time and labor all gratis. The good book says, "Bear one anothers burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." The College is not only for a few, it is for the church. Now brethren come and help us, every dollar counts, don't wait. The interest is accumulating. Go to work now in good earnest, every pastor in his congregation. We expect a favorable report from every congregation. When at the convention in viewing the College our mind rested upon its surroundings, the past, the present and future. There in the beautiful little city of Ashland, with its four thousand intelligent and cultured inhabitants, it is located in south Ashland, on a beautiful elevation, a campus of 27 acres. There stands the main College building, substantial, of brick and stone, three stories and basement, and a beautiful dome towering up over the building, which contains a bell calling students to their studies. Please go with me inside, and here may I show you a neat reception room, the president's room, several nice recitation rooms and the spacious chapel. Now go with me up stairs. Here we see a number of recitation rooms and a large auditorium in the rear with a gallery over head. We ascend to the third story; here we show you a large museum room, two spacious literary halls; now we go on top of the building and we have a grand view all over the city and surrounding country for miles. Now go with us to the Boarding Hall. Here stands another grand structure of brick and stone, one hundred and twenty feet long and forty feet wide, three stories and basement, inside reception rooms, rooms for students and the basement with all its fixtures.

And now reviewing the past and thinking of some of our young ministers, Cober, Hildebrand, Ditch, Shively and a number of others who have gone out from this institution that are preaching the gospel and winning souls to Christ and then anticipating the future of the grand and mighty work this institution by the blessing of God may yet accomplish, I am impressed with a feeling of gratification to myself and gratitude to him who doeth all things well.

JOSIAH KEIM.

Louisville, Ohio.

Sisters' Society for Christian Endeavor.

I have learned tonight for the first time that such societies exist as Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor. I obtain the fact from M. E. Sigerfoose in this week's EVANGELIST. At the Convention held in Ashland, O., Sept., I was one of a committee on Woman's Work, who presented resolutions to said convention for its adoption, which was done. It was resolved by our committee that we organize a Sister's Society of the Brethren church. Of course, we must have a name, and that of Sisters' Society for Christian Endeavor was proposed by one of the committee as an appropriate one, and accepted as a good one, after some discussion. It was the wish of the committee that we have a new name. I thought this one suited our purposes, and was pleased to give it my sanction. I was at the convention but two days, my cousin being sick, we came home. The last day of the meeting, and in my absence, by an action of the convention, I was made President of the Board of this new society originating with the Brethren church. I was not aware of this until some weeks after, and as much time had been lost already, it was my duty to take measures for operation as soon as possible. There must be a system, or unity of plan, before there can be successful work in any direction. This I did in requesting the sisters write their views concerning a constitution and by-laws. I had never a thought of organizing under one of a society already existing for a purpose not originating in the Brethren church. I believe that to be the wishes and intentions of both the committee and the convention that adopted their resolutions.

M. M. STERLING.

Society for Christian Endeavor.

The Board has decided upon having a written Constitution and By-laws with which Branch Societies may be organized and governed in each church in the sisterhood. They will be finished as soon as possible. It will then be expected that the Christian women of every congregation take hold of the work, and have flourishing societies in a few months. "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men."

M. M. STERLING.

Our Church.

Bro. Miller went down to Bremen, and Glenford, over last Sunday.

Bro. J. H. Worst's family expect to visit in Ashland and vicinity about the holidays.

A card from Lanark, Ill., informs us that Bro. Worst has had some success in his meetings.

An interesting article of correspondence by Bro. Brown is in the drawer for next week.

The meetings at the College Chapel will probably continue until next Thursday at least.

Bro. W. C. Perry filled Bro. Mason's appointments at Miamisburg, O., and Little York last Sunday.

Bro. P. J. Brown, Josiah Kiem, H. J. Jacobs and several others from the Homer church, attended the love feast held last Monday evening at the College.

Bro. J. M. Tombaugh, of Fairview, O., expected to go to Farmersville, last Monday to assist at a meeting. He will probably remain a week.

Bro. Mason will go down to Glenford, O., on Thursday. There will be meeting at on Thursday and Friday evening Dec. 1st and 2nd; preparatory services on Saturday afternoon at 2:30, and the Love feast in the evening, to commence at 5:30 prompt. The usual hearty invitation is extended.

The Brethren at Mount Zion, near Bremen, Ohio, will have meetings Thursday and Friday evening, Dec. 8th and 9th. A Council meeting on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 and Love feast on the same evening to commence at 5:30 sharp.

The Brethren Annual is now well under headway, and will soon be ready. It will be sold at the usual price, 10 cents. It will contain a portrait of Eld. Geo. Wolfe, deceased, of California, and one of Eld. Jacob Fahrney. Send in your order now.

The Report of the Convention is now out and we can fill orders at once. As there is not likely to be another general Convention for five years, every member of our church should have a copy of this report for reference use. It contains fifty-five pages set in in small type. The price is 20 cents. Send twenty cents in stamps for a copy, and see what the Convention did.

Bro. J. B. Yoder, of Creston, O., was here a few days last week, and reports that he gathered up five dollars on the College "Dollar boom" among a few scattered members, living in the neighborhood of the old Beech Grove, German Baptist church. If every one would feel their individual responsibility in this matter and work it up, the "Dollar boom" would turn out a very important item. Let us work it up, brethren.